Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously presented) A method for transmitting encoded data packets to one or more mobile stations in a communication system including a cell that has sectors serving at least partially different geographic areas, the method comprising:

transmitting in a first sector an encoded data packet in one or more time slots to a mobile station;

reducing transmission power in a second sector during one or more of the time slots in which the first sector transmits the data packet to the mobile station;

decoding at the mobile station the encoded data packet after each time slot;

transmitting by the mobile station a signal indicating acknowledgment of the packet reception when the decoding of the packet is successful; and

in response to receiving the acknowledgement signal, ceasing transmission of the data packet in the first sector in subsequent time slots.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20 wherein transmitting the data packet in the first sector while reducing transmission power in the second sector is controlled according to a pattern.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein the pattern is organized in a sequence of time slots and the pattern defines which sectors transmit data packets and which sectors reduce transmission power in each of the time slots.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein the pattern is a predetermined pattern repeated over time.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 further comprising:
determining a current state of transmissions in each of the sectors; and
determining the pattern based on the determined current state of transmissions.

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the state of transmissions includes information about a scheduling status of transmissions in neighboring sectors.

26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 25 wherein the state of transmissions includes information about current transmission rates of a sector.

27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the state of transmissions includes information about a next time slot scheduled for transmission in a sector.

28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the state of transmissions includes information about a forward link signal-to-interference ratio measured at a mobile station located within a sector.

29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the state of transmissions includes information about an estimated location of a user scheduled to receive a data packet in a sector

30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the state of transmissions includes a fairness parameter for a user scheduled to receive a data packet in a sector.

31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the state of transmissions includes information about an application type of a user scheduled to receive data packets in a sector.

32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the state of transmissions includes information about a quality of service level of a user scheduled to receive data packets in a sector.

33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20 further comprising:
arranging a frequency reuse factor of one or higher in the communication system.

34. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20 wherein the second sector does not transmit any data packets while its transmission power is reduced.

35. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20 wherein the second sector transmits data packets at a reduced transmission rate while its transmission power is reduced.

36-37. (Cancelled)

38. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20 wherein reducing transmission in a sector comprising suppressing transmission in the sector.